



Lawrence "Larry" Rakestraw

August 4, 2019

Lawrence "Larry" C. Rakestraw, age 77, of Suwanee, GA passed away Sunday, August 4, 2019. He was preceded in death by his parents, Jake and Essie Mae Rakestraw. Mr. Rakestraw is survived by his sons and daughters-in-law, Jeff and Jill Stephens Rakestraw, Buford, GA, Kyle and Stacy Schmidt Rakestraw, Birmingham, AL, Kevin and Lindy Daniels Rakestraw, McDonough, GA; daughters and sons-in-law, Leah and Pat O'Quinn, Macon, GA and Lara and Johnny Green, Monroe, GA; grandchildren, Jake Rakestraw, Faith Rakestraw, Savanna Rakestraw, John Michael O'Quinn, Jamie O'Quinn, Jordan O'Quinn, Remington Holcombe, Nate Rakestraw, Amelia Rakestraw, Breeann Green and Hunter Green; brother, James Rakestraw, Tucker, GA; sisters and brothers-in-law, Jackie and James Garrett, Douglasville, GA, Robin and Joe Brown, Villa Rica, GA; numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. Mr. Rakestraw was born April 22, 1942 in Atlanta, GA. He was a 1960 graduate of West Fulton High School, Atlanta, GA and a 1964 graduate of the University of Georgia with a bachelor's degree. He played professional football with the Chicago Bears for six years. Mr. Rakestraw was inducted into the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame in 2010. He played baseball and football at the University of Georgia, under Wally Butts. Mr. Rakestraw was a retired independent insurance agent for forty years. He was an avid golfer and loved sports. Mr. Rakestraw was awarded the University of Georgia Baseball Athletic Achievement Award and was of the Baptist faith. Funeral services will be held on Friday, August 9, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. in the Chapel of Flanigan

Funeral Home, with Rev. John Alexander officiating. Interment will be at Broadlawn Memorial Gardens, Buford, GA. The family will receive friends from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., Thursday, August 8, 2019 at the funeral home.

Tribute Wall



“ *Lawrence "Larry" Rakestraw*

November 08, 2022 at 07:37 PM



“ *On behalf of all the people at Tucker Football League, I want to express our deepest sorrow in hearing of the loss of such a great man. We are so sorry that we did not hear earlier as I personally would not have missed my last chance to say goodbye. Larry was a remarkable athlete but what many did not know, Larry was as a great coach and leader of young men. I was fortunate to coach with Larry for several years. His understanding of the proper way to treat young, impressionable athletes never escaped me. I can remember one time Larry pulled me to the side during one of my many tirades, and told me that no matter how a player performs, "that little boy is somebody's child and to always remember that". Not many days go by without my thinking of the wisdom of these words. I regret not keeping in closer contact with Larry.*

I hope his family knows how much he meant to the community of Tucker and my family.

God rest his soul.

Randall Rolader - August 09, 2019 at 12:00 AM



“ *Remembering you in our prayers, Frances Brand and Carol Brand Powell.*

Carol Brand Powell - August 09, 2019 at 12:00 AM

GR

“ RIP Larry !!!!!!!!! Had so many awesome Golf rounds with Larry. He was such a Competitor, and GREAT GUY !!!!! I will miss him. Heaven Has a Great Person now !!!!!

Greg Rabideaux - August 08, 2019 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ I am so sorry for the loss of a fellow Dawg. Proud that my son played on his football team at Tucker Football League and I was his team mother. He led the boys to a state championship. Rest In Peace knowing that your legacy lives on through your family and the young men you mentored. Prayers to all.

Carol Freeman - August 07, 2019 at 12:00 AM

LH

“ Rest in Peace, Pal....See you on the other side!

Lamar Hill - August 07, 2019 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ All amazed at the fact we we to school with Larry Rakestraw

Robert Mize - August 06, 2019 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ Sorry for the loss of Larry. He is in a better place now. Hope he still hits them long and straight.
Mike Gray

Mike Gray - August 06, 2019 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ Larry was a super guy and great teammate (baseball) who caught our "Perfect" game against Ga Tech.

Leroy Mann - August 06, 2019 at 12:00 AM

BK

“ Roger and I are so sad to learn of Larry's death. We extend our deepest sympathy to his family. As long as he was able, Larry was a celebrity player in our Alexis Kaiser Foundation golf tournament which raises funds for children with special needs. He was a great friend for of our for over fifty years. D4Tdh

Beverly Kaiser - August 06, 2019 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ My condolences for Larry and family. He will truly be missed. He was always a kind person. RIP dear Larry

carol r Cicero - August 06, 2019 at 12:00 AM

CN

“ Sincere condolences to all the Rakestraw family. Larry and I were classmates in high school, and he and my late husband Ken '57 were teammates and friends. Perhaps Larry and Ken are playing a game of catch in Heaven today.

Charlene Nix - August 06, 2019 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ Lots of great memories as kids on Oak Street, and more recent at West Fulton Golf Tournaments. Remembering our last phone conversation before we moved to WA State, Larry's issues had started, and we discussed his spiritual condition. Larry stated, "I know Jesus and I'm ready to go". Praise the Lord. Love you Cuz, see you up there! Ron

Ron & Debbie Moon - August 06, 2019 at 12:00 AM

WJ

“ I am sorry to hear about Larry. I remember My childhood days on Oak St. In Center Hill. Larry was always nice to me and let me be involved in games even though I was slot younger at the time. He is the reason I am a Dawg Fan. The Massey's and Rakestraw's had a long term relationship. I will have a Prayer for The Family.

William Mayes Massey Jr. - August 05, 2019 at 12:00 AM

RY

Played on the 1955 Grove Park Midget Football Team with Larry (Pepsi). He was a great athlete and a wonderful guy.
Robert Young
Carrollton GA

Robert Young - October 30, 2021 at 03:17 PM

CB

I was blessed to have played baseball on a team from Oakdale Ga. We experienced playing against Pepsi Rakestraw. I know he was very successful in Sports at Georgia. Playing at the Red Shields Baseball Field down on The Bankhead Highway was so much fun. Larry Inspired me with his Athletic Abilities. The Grove Park Community and all of Georgia have lost Greatness with Larry's Passing. Charles Beckett.

Charles Beckett - November 15, 2021 at 09:06 PM

KM

“ Larry was my hero while I was a freshman at UGA and he was the starting QB. He had a great game against the University of Miami. The Bulldog Nation has lost one of its finest. I mourn, along with many other teammates, the loss of a great bulldog.

Kirby Moore - August 05, 2019 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Sorry for your lost prayers for the family Larry was good friend in school he will be missed

James Baker - August 05, 2019 at 12:00 AM